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THE BELL RINGER

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 3

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

DECEMBER 16, 1994

MBA Alumnus Elected Senator

In late 1993, MBA alumnus Bill Frist decided to leave his career as a heart and lung transplant surgeon in order to challenge Tennessee's eighteen-year incumbent Senator Jim Sasser. With no political experience and much opposition to an unknown challenger, Frist rose above other Republican nominees to become Tennessee's candidate; he led a grass roots campaign that gained enough momentum to cause a political earthquake. While the incumbent disregarded the unknown candidate, Frist was traveling throughout Tennessee searching for every vote, whether in a small greasy-spoon restaurant or the basement of a college campus. As election day approached, Frist's campaign went into a higher gear while Sasser still overlooked Frist's potential. Sasser's complacency ultimately granted Frist a seat in the United States Senate.

Fortunately, we had

the opportunity to spend a day with Dr. Frist as he campaigned vigorously just before the election. We embarked upon a bus tour that scoured Tennessee for every potential voter in all possible locations. Frist called upon the talents and appeal of such prominent figures as George 'Goober' Lindsey, Republican nominee Steve Wilson, and balladeer Austin Church, writer and singer of "Liberal Jim" in order to sway the undecided voter. The bus departed at 6:30 and headed towards Franklin for breakfast at a typical greasy spoon. Afterwards, the bus

by Nathan Lujan and Tim Wesley stopped at MTSU, downtown Shelbyville, and ultimately Tullahoma where we left for home, but Frist continued to



campaign.

At each stop, Frist greeted and shook the hands of those gathered after a brief speech. Without a doubt, the

most popular part of the rally was the introduction of Goober. Also drawing great applause was Austin

Church's Ballad of Liberal Jim. In the few minutes between stops, Frist and his campaign strategists planned for the next rally. It was during one of these interludes that we were allowed a brief interview with Frist.

As we interviewed him we learned the following:

•*BellRinger*- In terms of work experience, you started out at Harvard working around the night getting paid about a dollar an hour while working with indigent people. How has your work helped you?

•Bill Frist- For the last twenty years I have been working in a

hospital taking care of people one-on-one. I've spent over one thousand nights operating all night long in a hospital as well as working six to seven days a week, fourteen hours a day. The difference between then and now is that there I was treating individuals with diseased hearts and lungs and now I will be treating diseases and illnesses that are equally life threatening but on a much larger scale. The motivation for running for U.S. senate is the exact same as medicine: serving one-on-one.

•BR- How has MBA directly affected your life now?

•BF- At MBA, I developed an appreciation for focus and discipline that carried with me in both college and medical school and today. An appreciation for the 'scholar, gentleman, athlete' concept is the foundation upon which all of my further training has been based. The specific skills of communication, writing, and speaking have

Please see, Frist, Page 7

Mr. Smith Retiring

by Zach Skipper

In 1973, an MBA graduate came to serve his school as an employee who would stay on "the Hill" as an administrator for twenty-one years. Mr. Laird Smith has formally announced his plans for retirement, which will go into effect December thirty-first, 1994.

Mr. Smith worked with Alumni and Fund-raising and, in 1981, raised money through the Capital Campaign to build our track, the Bennett-Forhand Baseball Field, the addition of the small gym, and the Massey Building. We can also thank him for bringing Mrs. Napier to our staff. In 1984, Mr. Smith began to oversee the Buildings and Grounds. This is "the best job in the world" he says, "because I get to work outside and mingle with the students.

Mr. Smith has emphysema and feels because of his lack of energy and difficulty in breathing that he cannot perform his



job as well as it should be done. Mr. Smith, however, won't disappear from the campus immediately. He says, "I have to clean up a little bit. I've let a big mess accumulate over 21 years." Mr. Smith wants every Montgomery Bell

student to "truly appreciate going to MBA and to take advantage of the opportunities that abound, because these years will be treasured as the greatest of our lives."

This appreciation must also fall on Mr. Smith. It is from his tireless duty to the school that so many opportunities have developed. Thanks to him we can admire daily the splendor of the campus and the many benefits of the facilities. The campus has definitely changed since Mr. Smith's senior year when Currey Gymnasium was just completed and the only other buildings on "the Hill" were Ball, Carter, and Wallace. He has contributed greatly to the construction and maintenance of the handsome, state of the art campus. Please see, Mr. Smith, Page

Serving Up Soup

by Lee Hampton

MBA's ever-growing community service program continues to support the Loaves and Fishes program at Holy Name Catholic Church, known as "the soup kitchen" at MBA. The program provides free meals on Saturdays and several weekdays. Dr. Springer, who sponsors the soup kitchen, remarked that MBA's assistance at the soup kitchen: "provides MBA students with an opportunity to help a segment of our community that they would otherwise not meet, provides needed manpower for community service programs like Loaves and Fishes, and helps the community learn about MBA and the kind of students we have at our school."

MBA students help at the soup kitchen on the first Saturday of each month during the school year and usu-

ally serve about 200 people. On these days, students and teachers meet at MBA and carpool to the church around 9:00 A.M. After arriving at Holy Name, they prepare meals according to the menu chosen by a faculty member, using food bought by a teacher the preceding week and utensils provided by the church. The students then serve the food and clean up the kitchen and dining room after the meal. If the church workers need help, students aid them, too. Please see, Soup, Page 2

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News and Opinions

And Now, the Truth!

Were we true Democrats, we would have believed every word of Paul Thompson's article in the last issue by faith alone, with no independent thought whatsoever. But luckily we realized that Mr. Thompson's arguments were severely flawed when one used a little common sense (something most Democrats try to avoid).

First of all, we need to clear up Mr. Thompson's perceptions of Rush Limbaugh, since he accused Will O'Hare of "reading from Limbaugh's playbook." The most important question, one that Rush himself asks all liberals who try to blame their unpopularity on his "brainwashing" of America, is, "Have you ever listened to the show? If so, you need to listen harder." Rush Limbaugh's show is anything but a brainwashing. Unlike liberals, he actually encourages intelligent discussion of the issues (that common sense thing again), even if the caller's opinion runs counter to his own. Most liberals who call the show, having already lied to the producer about what they wanted to talk about and launch into a fanatical, screaming diatribe against Rush—but when it comes to talking issues, they don't have quite as much to say. If you

haven't listened to the show (which is probably the case), you fall prey to your own accusation—mindless repetition of propaganda. Speaking of "brainwashing," let's discuss Bill Clinton. Clinton's idea of an effective speech is to bring some God-forsaken "victim of society" to the podium with him, whining that unless his health plan is passed, this poor person will surely die. If he isn't putting on one of these stage acts, he's preaching in church about his pork-ridden crime bill being "the will of God," as he did over the summer. Actually, most Democratic policies, like the will of God, can only be accepted by blind faith—when one thinks rationally and skeptically, this acceptance doesn't come quite so easily. Bill Clinton tries to sell his wares by appealing to the emotions, not the mind.

Like any true Republican, let's apply common sense to the issues. I know this will be hard, Mr. Thompson, but try to stay with us. The Democratic idea of huge government has certainly failed in the minds of Americans, as the elections so clearly show. The reason is quite simple: individuals don't want the government invading their lives. In your article, you stated that "Democrats realized that big

by Mark Pettus & Chris Allen business was going to crush the individual." Well, instead of business, today it's government trying to control our health care, our income, and our freedom. Sounds a little like socialism, doesn't it. I know, democrats aren't socialists, or so you say. However, the threat of capitalist businesses overwhelming the individual was one of Lenin's rallying cries for communism—take a look at some of his propaganda. Lately, the Democrats' desire to equalize incomes has become shamefully apparent in their taxing of the rich and middle class. Mr. Thompson writes that "liberalism is full of egalitarianism." If the Democrats were truly dedicated to this idea, then would someone kindly explain to us the Democratic shouts of "Make them pay their fair share!" If the liberals truly believed in egalitarianism, then everyone would pay their true fair share of taxes—an equal percentage of their income.

Whether or not the rich can live comfortably with the current tax rates is not the point. People of all incomes, filthy rich or dirt poor, should pay a flat percentage, and therefore be allowed to keep a reasonable, proportional amount of what they've worked so hard to earn. In Clinton's new economic

policies, success is being penalized in America, and those who have worked hard and achieved the American dream are being forced to pay much of their hard-earned money to support those welfare recipients who refuse to work. During the elections, Bill Frist was endlessly criticized by Jim Sasser for being a successful and wealthy heart surgeon. Since when was success a liability? Sasser seemed to ignore the years of medical school, the hard work, and the busy schedule that brought Frist success, and tried to convince Tennesseans that Frist had somehow "cheated" his way to success by ripping off the health care system. Clearly, Tennesseans were not convinced, and Frist won easily. However, people like Frist and anyone else who has worked hard to make a living are being forced to support people who absolutely refuse to work. We must point out that, of course, some form of welfare is necessary for those who cannot work, but more and more frequently it is becoming a way of life. It has now become working people's job to support the lazy.

This welfare system is a glaring example of the most basic Democratic tenant: to keep as many people as possible completely dependant on the

government. However, Mr. Thompson says that liberals believe "that the government should protect individuals, not provide for them." Are these the same liberals who increased welfare spending through increasing taxes and cutting defense spending? It would appear that Mr. Thompson inadvertently transposed "protect" and "provide."

We're sure the Democrats will find a convenient excuse for the recent GOP sweep: the voters were tricked by the evil Republicans, the voters don't know what's good for them, or, Al Gore's personal favorite, the voters' brain functions were disrupted by radiation seeping through the hole in the ozone layer. The true reasons are quite clear: Americans are sick of big government. Discussing politics doesn't require a vast knowledge of percentages or complicated theories, and it certainly doesn't require knowing the history of laissez-faire capitalism. All it requires is common sense, something everyone is born with. As soon as he abandons the Democratic tendency to over-complicate everything, Mr. Thompson will hopefully learn how to use his.

Soup. . .

If enough students are present, the cleaning is usually finished by 1:00 P.M.

Dr. Springer, Ms. Lefebvre, Mr. Chenery, and Mr. Patrick frequent the soup kitchen. They provide planning of the meals and supervision of the students. At the December soup kitchen, the volunteers received a visit from Mr. Gioia and Mr. Weaver. They talked to several students, served, and took group photos. Although MBA has supported the soup kitchen for many years, Mr. Gioia has brought a greater emphasis to community service projects in general.

The Loaves and Fishes program is funded through a variety of private donations and grants from the Federal government. The MBA student council, however, funds the purchase of the food prepared by MBA.

"The only successful tackle by the Commodores in the Vanderbilt - Tennessee game was by Gerry DiNardo's secretary."

Like lambs to slaughter, the Vanderbilt Commodores' "football team" was annihilated by the Vols 65 - 0. Entering the game, Vanderbilt had hopes of a winning season and a bowl game. According to a few Vanderbilt fans who wish to remain nameless (Stephen Wall), Vanderbilt was supposed to win the game, although they had only won 2 out of 27 in the series. Even more naive fans made "gentlemanly" bets on Vanderbilt without even asking for a point spread. Everyone thought it was a year for change; Gerry DiNardo had even mentioned the T-word (Tennessee) for the first time instead of that team to the east. But as many faithful Vol fans predicted the outcome was oh-so familiar.

65 - 0: Nothing Out of the Ordinary

by John Lyell

In the sea of orange, the Commodores drowned. According to most fans, they couldn't stand to bear the second half. Those who did stay until the second half, stayed to see the band, the Tennessee band that is. The Vanderbilt fans were not the only ones drowning among the orange masses. The boys on the field wearing black and gold were humiliated as usual, 65 - 0.

The Vanderbilt Commodores managed to look impressive throughout the warm-up and the first three minutes until Tennessee got the ball. The Vols led 7 - 0 after the first quarter, not really an indicator of the flood that was to soon to occur. The second quarter was such a massacre that children under 17 (i.e. Stephen Wall, & all other MBA- Vandy faithful that we won't embarrass) should not have been allowed to watch, and some did not picking five minutes into the second quarter as a good time

to "beat the crowds home." Tennessee put 37 points on the board in the half, while Vanderbilt did not even have 37 rushing yards. The second half was more of the same, with the final score of 65 - 0. It was obvious things had gone bad for the Commodores when two UT walk-ons each had more rushing yardage than Vandy's star Johnson who was kept from achieving his thousand yards.

Bill Marinangel, the Vanderbilt punter, was the 'Dores player of the game, who punted 9 times, and honestly only one or two of which were decent. Tennessee was held to under 400 yards rushing, a real accomplishment for Vanderbilt. The Vanderbilt offense showed its ability by not scoring a touchdown, but they did cut down on the amount of fumbles. In fact, one Vandy player (#75) proved he had what it took for good ball handling skills when Please see, 65-0, Page 5

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News

Theft at MBA

by: Brew Davis and Zach Skipper

After thirteen cars were broken into on a November Tuesday, a closer appraisal of campus security began. With a number of Macintosh Powerbooks being stolen the first week of school, two cars being broken into the week before Thanksgiving, and a number of cars broken into last year, losses ranging from pocket change to \$1000, we at MBA are finally realizing how open to theft our campus is. A campus of our size has many advantages, but one of its disadvantages is vulnerability. Most apparent is the lack of supervision and activity on the Wilson side of the campus. "That whole side of the campus needs more security," said Mr. Gioia of the break-ins near the tennis courts. "We just take things for granted." We assume our sports equipment will be safe in the gym locker room, but such is not the case. The MBA's borders seem most vulnerable to theft.

Mr. Gioia said, "I feel frustrated . . . angry . . . paranoid . . . helpless." Anyone who has ever had any-

thing stolen or vandalized feels the same way. The victim of a crime naturally wants revenge. But the only way to prevent further break-ins is to vent our frustration and vengeance into preventative defense against thieves. Action will be taken to ensure that we not be victims again.

There have been several suggestions on how to secure our campus, ranging from the absurd to the realistic, installing video cameras to monitor parking lots. Officially, Headmaster Gioia remarked: "We have made no decisions yet . . . When the police came they said they would come by to check on it regularly." In the meantime, sophomores have been asked to park in the Vine Street lot. While this move may seem to be merely sidestepping the issue, it buys the MBA community time to find a reasonable alternative. The school hopes that the police will watch for criminals, so that students can worry about their grades being safe more than their valuables being safe.

This year, the chorus is once again fantastic. Ignoring misconceptions about chorus, Dr. Cassel has begun focusing on music literacy and the fundamentals of music theory. As a result of increased academic demands, the quality of sound has improved greatly from last year and continues to progress. Never before has the chorus been so close to the heavenly regions so early in the year. I attribute most of this not to the study of theory, but to the valiant efforts of the fearless president.

The chorus did have a fall concert at the end of October, the earliest such per-



The Chorus sings in divine splendor at Homecoming, earlier this year

formance in MBA history. It gracefully allowed the Jazz Band to join the chorus and luckily the ethereal beauty of our seemingly immortal voices outweighed the raucous blaring of the obviously human Jazz Band. The concert was a success. The chorus sang at the MBA Open House, as well as at a number of off-campus holiday appearances

joined by the women of Harpeth Hall, and untainted by other instrumental, well shall I say, music. Ending the holiday season with a bang on December 8, the chorus put on the definitive holiday concert in Paschall Theater. Singing a potpourri of songs including "An African Noel," the chorus added to the event's festivities.

The Theatre Club Breaks a Leg in "Compound Fracture"

by Stephen Wall

The Civil War Chess Set, MBA's Theatre Club, kicked off the month of December with "Compound Fracture," a collection of four student-directed one act plays. Not only did the Theatre Club provide an evening of laughs, but also a showcase of talented actors.

One student who gave a notable performance was Sam Limor. In "Sure Thing," Limor, along with Kimberly Irion and director David Berry, told a hilarious story of poorly chosen pick-up lines and hot tempers that nearly derailed the romantic

relationship between Bill (Limor) and Betty (Irion). "Sure Thing" provided a night of stumbles and conversational screw ups.

Following "Sure Things" was another comedy, "Schubert's Last Serenade." Chris Kuhn directed this story about an illiterate construction worker (Eric Anderson) and a well-educated lady (Ashley Horne) who spend a less-than-peaceful evening together in a French restaurant. "Schubert's Last Serenade" was a crowd favorite, especially because of the

comical acts of Franz Schubert (A. J. Bird), the waiter (Brian Brooks), and the cook (Owen Tidwell). A. J., Brian, and Owen all enjoyed successful debuts. They were the source of many laughs as their characters conspired to ruin the couple's date.

After a brief intermission, the crowd was introduced to yet two more students making their debuts in Beau Tidwell's production of "Hidden in This Picture." Freshman Colin Bonfiglio played the role of a crazy movie director whose "Oscar-winning shot" was ruined by three random cows who wandered into the picture. Beau directed an extremely funny play as Jeff (Cory Frazier) and Craig (eighth-grader Wil Moss) tried to convince the movie director that the cows did not ruin the entire shot. Also adding to the humor of the play was senior Stephen Hunt, who played a stereotypical producer who spent a

great deal of time complaining the cost of the picture.

Last but not least was "Sorry, Wrong Number," a play directed by Will O'Hare. The only suspenseful play in "Compound Fracture," "Sorry, Wrong Number" told a story of Mrs. Stevenson (Emily Brotherton) and her frightening night alone. Mrs. Stevenson, who overheard a murder plot in a misdirected phone call, tried desperately, but unsuccessfully, to warn the authorities. A policeman (Ken Pruitt) and three phone operators (Kerry Sharpe,

Megan Donbeck, and Sheryl Spencer) provide Mrs. Stevenson with little help. The surprising, dramatic twist to the story is that the intended murder victim is Mrs. Stevenson herself.

The MBA Theatre Club's production should be viewed as a resounding success, as so many new actors proved themselves to be capable of continuing the Theatre Club's success. With so many talented freshmen and eighth-graders, Mr. Whiteman and The Civil War Chess Set can indeed look forward to a bright and promising future.

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Opinions

A BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR POLITICIANS

by Chris Spiegel

The following reading list was inspired by watching *In Search of Dr. Seuss* with my son. Theron gets very animated by the imagery and rhyme of the great master of children's literature and, in his own words, "loves Dr. Seuss". I have grown to share my son's estimation of the Dr. as I read the classics with him and relearn lessons inherent in all of his stories. Aside from individual stories' morals, I have become attached to certain themes inherent throughout his work: that most adults take life too seriously; that adults should be challenged to see the world as a child would; a world of peace is attainable; that illiteracy produces cultural disintegration and a third-rate nation; and that one should not lose one's sense of wonder and discovery.

The gross overspending on, and onslaught of, negative political advertising recently has brought to my attention the need to balance this shameless display of adulthood (adultery?) with a perspective of justice which 200 million copies brings weight to, and which the human spirit recognizes readily. One however, does need a syllabus and a canon;

and it is the intent of these humble words to provide such a mechanism of enlightenment, which may have been lost to these gentlemen and their trainers through deliberate oversight on their part.

Let me preface my annotated bibliography with a brief sketch of the good Dr. He suffered at the hands of ignorant youth as a boy, being taunted by labels of "Kaiser" on his way home from school, solely on the merits of his last name, Geisel. He pursued cartooning at Dartmouth, where he enrolled to pursue a career as a teacher. During prohibition (an adult concept), he was using gin with 10 college buddies; and when relieved of his duties at the school paper, *The Jack-O-Lantern*, he submitted his work under his mother's maiden name, Seuss. He also submitted work under the pseudonym of T. Lesieg, (you figure that one out). In his political cartoons, he decried anti-semitism and other forms of racism. He worked for the Standard Oil Company during the depression as a successful commercial artist, and earned some fame for his *Seuss Navy* ad campaign. He also

produced a successful ad campaign for an insecticide named *Flit*. Despite a good depression-era wage, he quit Standard Oil, but again joined the company, with a provision in his contract stating that he could also write children's books. As Captain Seuss in the Second World War, he worked in Hollywood under

**"even if you
become
extinct, you
can still leave
footprints"**

Frank (It's A Wonderful Life) Capra, and won a Legion of Merit award for indoctrination films. After the war, he produced a film entitled *Hitler Lives*, which spoke out against U.S. advocates of Fascism. He proceeded to write children's books full time; and Dick, Jane and Spot would never be the same. His father gave him a cast of a dinosaur footprint when he was twenty with the idea that, "even if you become extinct, you can still leave foot-

prints". In his later years, having weathered two wars, two loving marriages, battles with cancer and heart attacks, and the publication of 50 books in 20 languages, as well as in braille, he wrote:

"How did it get so late, so soon,
It's night before it's afternoon,
December's here before it's June,
My goodness, how the time has
flew,

How did it get so late, so soon?"
And now, the reading list. Hopefully these will serve our elected officials well, and give them the insights they so badly need.

The Sneetches - A story in which the sneetches with stars on their bellies believe they are better than the sneetches without stars on their bellies. After many machinations in which sneetches without stars try to become sneetches with stars, and vice versa, all sneetches are blessed with the realization (thanks to the Fix-It-Up Chappie) that it is the species, and not individual markings, which bring true import.

Horton Hatches an Egg - Horton displays the qualities of courage and loyalty in raising an egg which a not-so-dedicated mother neglects. In a

tale fraught with irony, viewed against today's political rhetoric and impotence, we see an Elephant who actively cares for a motherless child at a cost to himself, a character who "meant what he said and said what he meant" (contrast this with millions of dollars spent and no position elucidated), whose family values say there's more to being a mom than giving birth, and that good parenting is learned, not inherent in the blood tie. This tale even has some jackanapes disguised as hunters, who realize that making a buck off of Horton will be even more fun than blasting him. A cornucopia of morals here!

Yertle the Turtle - This is a classic tale of greed, pride and arrogance destroying the happiness in the pond. The king, Yertle, looks down on others; and not content to count his blessings, makes all turtles under his rule suffer. In a vain attempt to brook the moon's place in the heavens, he is brought low by a commoner's "burp". King Yertle becomes King of the Mud, an apt title for many of those who would have us vote them in. With this demagogue shushed, "the Please see, Seuss, Page 6

Perfectly Spherical Cow

by Freddie O'Connell

I can't stand election season. So bloody, so loud, so violent. But now we have the calm, soothing peace of hunting season to look forward to. I'm not actually a very dedicated meat eater. We've domesticated most of the forms of meat I ingest (beef, poultry, and the like), so I don't have so much of a problem with eating the flesh of cows or chickens. I am, however, generally opposed to hunting. I know, I know, our ancestors (or maybe it was our ancestors' ancestors) grew up doing the hunting and gathering thing, but to me happiness is not a warm gun in the wilderness.

Let me get right down to the nitty gritty. I am not totally opposed to hunting. I am totally opposed to hunting for sport. If you eat what you kill, then you deserve at least a small degree of respectability. Heck, we're omnivores by Mother

Nature's dictum; we gotta have roughage and red both for proper nutrition. Now, a real hunter, though, is one who goes out armed only with his hands and brings in a deer for dinner. That's how it should be done. To me, it is not in the least fun (allright, you caught me. I've never been hunting, but it doesn't strike me as an enjoyable pursuit) to pump a deer or a duck full of metal while you're dressed like a bush and making noises like an amorous animal. You never see squirrels and rabbits disguised as beer cans and humming Lynyrd Skynyrd tunes in waiting for unsuspecting humans to drop by so these ferocious woodland creatures can urinate on them.

Bows and arrows pass muster just barely because they are not so automatic as guns. But why is the thrill in the shoot-to-kill

instead of in the chase? Seriously, if I wanted to get in touch with my primal prerogative, I'd go cruising among the trees brandishing a club or spear and occasionally sounding my barbaric yawp over the rooftop of whomever's farm I was trespassing on just to let the animals know I was coming (Heck, I might even wear a loincloth because, hey, camo just ain't chic). An occasional bloodcurdling yell fits the panorama Mama Nature has provided for us better than the prattle of gunfire, anyhow.

I confess that I am of the opinion that hunted meat is healthier than slaughtered meat because animals that bounce through the fields and woods trying to dodge sprays of bullets tend to be leaner than those whose strategy is to stand in one place and emit methane and excrement while wondering with a querulous moo where so many of their

brethren disappear to, anyway. And I can't stand vegetables.

So I guess my point is that since I know that there are a few MBA students who will partake of faunacide this year, I say represent us manually; get a little physical out there in the trenches and take down a stag in a flying tackle and let Dad club it. Now airborne creatures will be a little trickier to bag so load up your brain with ideas instead of your gun with bullets.

Next time, I'll be offering my views on health care, which are surprisingly similar to my views on hunting: "Take away that scalpel, nurse. I'm gonna' heal this guy with my hands!"

Oh, I'd also like to thank Randy for adding a whole new layer of meaning to last addition's article. Randy pointed out that the article's title should have been "I Bent My Wookiee" instead of the gross misquote: "I Bit My Wookiee." Now all should become clear. Thanks.

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Entertainment

Roxy Harrell and Skid Reasors' Top 10 Glam-rock albums

written by Grant Harrell and Matt Reasor

We would not be able to call ourselves gentlemen, scholars and athletes without the inspirations of every Glam-rock band formed within the years of our adolescence. While bands such as *Jackal* and *Ugly Kid Joe* try to pass the glam-torch, we all know that Glam is no longer with us physically, but emotionally we carry the spirit with us at all times. Through this top ten list of the greatest Glam-rock albums, we salute all of the survivors of the Glam-rock generation and the band members of these decayed bands. On a final note played on a Les Paul through a screaming Marshall stack we say, "Without Glam would there be life as we know it?"

Roxy Harrell and Skid Reasor
10) tie

a) *LA Guns - Hollywood Vampires*- roxy: "Crystal Eyes" was clearly one of the greatest songs ever written. This song was obviously written to tantalize young white-trash girls.

b) *Michael Monroe - Not Fakin' It*- skid: After he appeared as a "special guest" on multiple *Guns n' Roses* albums, I rushed to the Sound

Shop on my bmx bike to purchase his "hard to find" album. Now that I listen to this one time personal masterpiece, I realize why his career never peaked like I had anticipated. This prepubescent idol should have named his album *Fakin' It*.

9) *Lita Ford - Lita*-

a) *Lingerie* album cover
b) duet with Ozzy
c) "nuff said

8) *Cinderella - Night Songs*- skid: I bought this because I thought this was the best looking chic band I had ever seen. Then I saw an ancient interview with the band on *Headbangers Ball*, I was confused, hurt, and disgusted. This album is still radical but these "guys" should be imprisoned for playing with a young boy's mind like that.

7) *David Lee Roth - Eat 'Em and Smile*- skid and roxy: We never really liked this guy but he was always on MTV wearing leather and spandex. We thought it was cool.

6) *Def Leppard - Hysteria*- roxy: In the present day standard, Leppard is considered

Hickster-rock by all means. It saddened my heart to turn on KDF and hear Fairview graduates chanting "Play some Leppard, Dude!" I took the true powers of Leppard for granted until that magical night at Susan Boldridge's party. Smaledone, Leppard night forever, Dude!

5) *Faster Pussycat - Faster Pussycat*- skid: Name says it all.

4) *Twisted Sister - Stay Hungry*- a) roxy: Twisted Sister gave us classic songs like "We're Not Gonna Take It" and "I Wanna Rock". "We're Not Gonna Take It" was chanted last year in a class in protest to taking a quiz. Let's have a moment of silence for this classic song.
b) skid: Once my Mom caught me dressing up like this guy in her bedroom closet. I was grounded for two weeks and my tape was burned. Three weeks after that, I had a new copy of this killer album.

3) *Skid Row - Skid Row*- skid: Sebastian Bach; idol, myth, legend. For three years I thought "18 and Life" was his own biography, but soon I

learned that Sebastian was a mere poser just like the rest of his peers.

2) *Bon Jovi - Slippery When Wet*- skid: My Mom bought this album for me when I was eleven and then I realized that it was my true destiny to play lead guitar and mismatch cowboy gear and aerobic uniforms. These choices of social attire were quickly disregarded but recently displayed at the Harpeth Hall Halloween dance with my tribute to Gene Simmons costume. Bon Jovi fell short of their spot at number one solely because of the confusion I felt towards the song "Social Disease".

1) *Guns n' Roses - Appetite For Destruction*- roxy: The most incredible Glam album ever written! Axl's "fro on "Welcome to the Jungle" defines his true glam roots. I suspect that the band was on numerous drugs while making this masterpiece, therefore making this their greatest album to date?

skid: Axl, Slash, Duff, Izzy and Steve "why is he in this band" Adler. The inner photo tells it all. It's just like all the G'N'R shows I've been to.

65-0...

he made Vanderbilt's best handoff of the day by slamming Jermaine Johnson's helmet into his midsection after Johnson threw it twenty yards in disgust. Ironically this twenty yard helmet toss covered more yardage in five seconds than Johnson was able to make the entire game. This game showed how good Vandy could really be. I feel for those people who remember saying stupid comments such as Vandy was heading to a bowl after crushing the Big Orange. They need to remember that 80% of the "Dores" wins came over Wake Forest, Cincinnati, Northern Illinois, and Kentucky.

As for the Vols, there seems to be a bright future ahead including a bowl win to complete this season. The young talent has shown vast improvement and will make Tennessee a national contender next season. The only thing left to say is "Go Vols."

From the Annals of W-5

"Danger gleams
Like sunshine to
a brave man's eyes."

Euripides

The End of the Far Side, and the Death of an American Original

by T. Eddie Sisk

On January 1, 1995 the torch of the American spirit will burn a little dimmer and a slouch that was not there before will appear on the shoulders of Americans. For on that lack day in January, which would signal in the beginning of a new year, a True American Original will come to its end, Gary Larson will publish his last *Far Side*.

Now I could write a strictly factual "eulogy", filled with biographical and other useless facts of Mr. Larson's fifteen-year career, but I cannot, and will not do that. A more fitting "obituary" for the man who made us laugh, scratch our heads in confusion, and (God forbid) think all at the same time would be to explain what the lon means to me means to me personally, a person and a die hard groupie.

Everyone of us can

recall one time picking up the paper, bypassing everything else, and immediately going to see what today's *Far Side* was. All of us can identify with the feeling of confusion or hysterical laughter we would feel. That is why Mr. Larson's simple little cartoon will be so sorely missed, whoever we were, or whatever we did we could all just look and laugh. Mr. Larson once said that, "... sometimes even he didn't understand what the point was exactly," but he always somehow managed it. For that reason alone we owe him a debt of gratitude.

To me, however, Mr. Larson was always the towering example of the great American experimenter who didn't like what he saw so he went a little further west. Often imitated, he will never be duplicated. His simple cartoons have always offered a

little bit of shelter when the world got too crazy, even for me. Even now a stack of my favorites sits in the corner of my room to be pulled out in case of emergency. When I didn't think he had anything left, he, like Spinal Tap, could turn that amplifier up to eleven and give us a little more. And God knows how many times myself and everybody needed it.

In an age where the media, Barneyfing, and the ole' Grim Reaper are claiming our heroes (the lon of John Holmes hit me, personally pretty hard), we had heroes in Mr. Larson's characters: Rex the dog or Fifi the poodle. But we have made our bed and now we must lie in it. And by weaning us from the *Far Side*, I know that Mr. Larson is forcing us to take the next step in human evolution, raising humanity to a higher level. So,

on January 1 turn off the bowl games, put down the chips, and consider what you are reading, the passing of the third age of (man) peoplekind. And while your at it, offer a moment of prayer for new heroes to emerge. Then you can go back to the exact science of college-football rankings.

Old Cartoonists never die



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Sports

The Holiday Bowl Match-ups

by Matthew Berry

The bowl lineup this year is extremely weak. A few good matchups exist, however, which makes predicting some bowls worthwhile.

-The Aloha Bowl: Kansas State plays Boston College. Although BC is the underdog they slip past Kansas State. Boston College 17 - Kansas State 10

-Freedom Bowl: Arizona plays Utah. The Desert Swarm Defense of the Sports Illustrated jinxed Wildcats get the victory for Arizona by stopping Utah.

Arizona 10 - Utah 6

-Copper Bowl: BYU plays Oklahoma. BYU did not win the WAC for the first time in three years, but they still have a decent offense. Oklahoma found its offense and finished the year very strong. This could actually be a good game. Oklahoma 28 - BYU 24

-Sun Bowl: North Carolina plays Texas. Texas is overrated because they have a weak defense. Watch an experienced UNC offense expose Texas' weakness.

UNC 17 - Texas 10

-Gator Bowl: Tennessee plays Virginia Tech. Virginia Tech is led by a great quarterback in Maurice DeShazo, but they rely on the option. Look what the Tennessee defense did to Vanderbilt. In a defensive win, UT triumphs.

UT 14 - VT 10

-Liberty Bowl: Illinois plays East Carolina. This game is not worth watching. With a strong defence, the Illinni will hold ECU in check.

Illinois 14 - ECU 6

-Orange Bowl: Nebraska plays Miami. Miami is playing at home where they have only lost once while Erickson has been coach. Even with Tommy Frazier and with a national championship on the line, the Cornhuskers will not be able to overcome Warren Sapp and the Hurricanes.

Miami 34 - Nebraska 31

-Peach Bowl: Mississippi State plays North Carolina State. This game means nothing and most likely will gain very little attention around the country. The teams are evenly matched, but the Miss. St. line controls the clock and the game.

Miss. St. 17 - UNC St. 13

-Hall of Fame Bowl: Wisconsin plays Duke. Without Brent Moss, Wisconsin is defeated in a close game by Duke.

Duke 13 - Wisconsin 10

-Cotton Bowl: USC plays Texas Tech. This matchup is so bad that its barely worth mentioning. Bob Johnson and USC dominate.

USC 21 - Texas Tech 3

-Citrus Bowl: Alabama plays Ohio State. This should be a good game because Jay Barker and Alabama will bounce back from their only defeat. Alabama wins with a fourth quarter comeback.

Alabama 17 - Ohio State 14

-Rose Bowl: Oregon plays Penn. State. Early in the game Oregon will surprise Penn. State, but the Nittany Lions will run away with the game and the National Title in the second half.

Penn. State 28 - Oregon 10

-Sugar Bowl: Florida plays Florida State. This will be the most exciting bowl game. It is a rematch of the tie they had earlier in the year. This game ends up the same way when a Florida State field goal attempt hits the upright.

Florida St. 24 - Florida 24

turtles, of course, all the turtles are free, as turtles, and maybe, all creatures should be."

The Lorax - This is a tale of a diminished diversity in habitat and flora/fauna due to greed and the love of money. "I am the Lorax and I speak for the trees", was the cry of this spirit of wild places. Faced with the faceless and cryptically named Onceler, a pillager with little foresight, the Lorax pleads the case of birds, animals, air, fish and trees, only to be met with ever bleaker landscapes. How will those elected plead? "I am the Senator and I speak for the PAC's"? "I am the Senator and I speak for the status quo"? Take 'em down to the UN-LESS stone. We've got enough theeds!

How the Grinch Stole Christmas - As the song said, and the campaigns so adequately demonstrated, "You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch". Here is a guy whose heart truly is the problem; it's two sizes too small. Even this meany, in characteristic Seussian optimism, is changed by the powers of love and song so that his heart grows three

Seuss...

sizes on that day of days.

The Butter Battle Book - A story of the arms race and the numbing power of weapons to override communication as a mechanism for change in our societies. Narrow-minded wheezing spooks in the bowels of the machine, portend a fate of escalating violence to good people trying to do their jobs. What happens when people act out of fear and forget their inner voices of truth and justice? In the Doctor's bleakest book, the outcome is left undecided. A message for the electorate?

The Cat in the Hat - The reader that set the school boards a'fretting, and the readers a'readin, became a most influential book in changing how reading was done. The fun, imagination and courage shown by the impish cat, decried the fish-in-the-pot's voice of fearful "no's".

There are many more titles I wish you gentlemen to read. All are equally apt for today. I will close with my favorite, "And to Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street", wherein a young boy's imagination flies in the face of his father's reason. I thank you Dr. Seuss, in whatever heaven you dwell, for making me a better father. I picture your heaven with all of its wild shapes and colors and forms alive. YOU, truly are a great American!

As to those of you going to Washington to represent me, please read from the above list, preferably with your children. Remember the lessons of love, courage and imagination which the good Doctor labored so hard, to get across playfully. Finally, I would like to dedicate this article to the class of '95, because I think you have a fine sense of "Oh, the places we'll go", and the imagination, courage and large hearts it will take to get us there.

The Big Red Wave Rises Again

by Joey Martinez

As the fall season comes to a close, it is time once again for the Big Red Wave to step up to the blocks in anticipation of yet another successful season. The anchors of the team are captains Joey Martinez and Jonathan Spencer, Chris Callister, Adrian Cameron, Jonathan Chen, Peter Chen, John Hearn, Jeremy Kane, Sam Kuykendall, Chris Nalbantayan, James Walton, and Tyler Willingham. The new additions to the team are Jonathan Baird, Robert Farringer, John Jewell, Brandon Jones, Chris Kellam, Joe Marianelli, Judson Mulherin, and Phillip Guengerich. With such a large team, the team hopes to regain its Region title that was lost because of the lack of swimmers last year.

Swimming is a relatively new sport at MBA, and we are fortunate enough to have obtained several Region titles along with a string of victories throughout the years.

Like many of the other sports at MBA, swimming is very much an individual effort. Winning individual events is obviously essential, but sometimes the scores are so close that merely having a swimmer in a race could put the whole team over the top. Coach Rundberg, in response to the start of the season, said, "This year, more than ever, our team has both an advanced level of leaders and an ambitious, energetic group of newcomers as well." That is why, with such a young but experienced team, they pose such a formidable threat to those teams who dare challenge them.

As united as the team may be, fan support is always appreciated; unfortunately, up to now our fan club has consisted almost entirely of team parents. The meets usually take place on Thursdays, and we encourage faculty members as well as students to attend. Most of the

meets take place in Vanderbilt or the Sportsplex and usually last about two hours. Obviously, it is not expected for fans to stay for the whole meet, but any fan support is always helpful, particularly since the fans are usually only about three feet from the edge of the pool.

Our first meet took place on November 30 against MLK at Pearl Cohn High School; and even without the NAC members we managed to defeat MLK's swim team handedly. In the 200 and 400 Meter Relays, our A-relay team actually lapped MLK's top four swimmers. Even the less experienced members of our team managed to win a few heats in their events. We appreciate those of you who came out to watch us compete (namely Mr. Regen). Our next meet is against archrival Father Ryan on January 5, and it is probably the most important dual meet of the season. The whole team will be on

hand to take on the Fightin' Irish, and we anticipate another Big Red win.

In addition, anyone who is interested in swimming and would like to join the team please contact Mr. Rundberg, Mr. Small, Jonathan, or Joey Martinez. Practices for the non-NAC swimmers take place everyday from about three to four at the Sportsplex. The entrance fee for the Sportsplex is covered by the school, and by the way MBA pays for the swim caps and Speedos too!

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News

Frist. . .

over that last year helped to develop a clear-cut message that has to reach four-million people. All of the skills began at MBA.

•BR- Considering the quality of education that exists at MBA, what will you do to ensure the same level of education for students around the country in public schools?

•BF- The public school system in Tennessee and the United States has a tremendous amount of potential that is being eroded by the federal government today. Number one, I think the federal government needs to be out of the business of educating people at the primary and secondary level and that accountability needs to be returned to the local level. Unlike Bill Clinton and Jim Sasser, who feel that public education is best determined by faceless bureaucrats in Washington D.C., I think that public education needs to be addressed by local school boards and communities. For example, last month common legislation passed the creation of a national school board. I think that is wrong. We need local accountability among students, parents, and principals.

•BR- What solutions do you see for funding in places where funding is being cut off in local areas in the middle of the year?

•BF- Funding needs to be established at the local and state levels. Local schools are being handcuffed by federal mandates because such mandates are dealing with funds. Instead of channeling taxes to schools through the federal government, those taxpayer dollars should remain within the communities. These funds could solve the particular needs of the schools.

•BR- Considering the increase of crime and the availability of guns among teenagers as well as others, what anti-crime measures do you support that coincide with your anti-gun control stance?

•BF- My position on gun

ownership rights is that I oppose further federal intervention in gun control. I support the second amendment of the Constitution and I think that every law abiding citizen has



the right to bear arms. As a physician and as a trauma surgeon, I see more gunshot injuries, stab wounds and battered persons than any other United States senator. As a product of that, I feel that gun control would do nothing in terms of preventing crime in our society. What we need to do is to punish the criminals more aggressively and that is not a priority of the Clinton and Sasser administration. Sasser will say he is tough on crime but at the same time will support a quota system that will determine who can appeal for the death penalty. I am against such a system. Jim Sasser says he is tough on crime but wants to remove mandatory sentencing for



crimes such as selling drugs to minors. We need to be tough on crime, unlike the bill that was just passed.

•BR- It seems that with such a plan the prison overcrowding problem would be exacerbated. What would be the scale for determining punishments?

•BF- For tougher punishment, we need to make the punishment meet the crime.

We need truth in sentencing where someone convicted for a rape would serve seven years and not just two years. We need to reverse the trend of making prisons like holiday inns and the trend that

has led us to air-conditioned prisons but not air-conditioned public schools. That pendulum needs to swing back to again recognize that we are punishing someone for a crime. We can do such things as put to put two prisoners in a cell just as we put armed service individuals in bunks. Clearly, if we are going to punish criminals and keep them in prisons for a long period of time we are going to need more prisons. As I travel across Tennessee, I see that people would support that strongly.

•BR- As family values become a more important issue for the 90's, how will you promote strengthening these values?

•BF- I believe that the solutions to most problems today rest with families and not with faceless bureaucrats in Washington D.C. The family unit has begun to disintegrate over the last twenty years and I think that trend can be reversed. Number one, I think that we need to remove all disincentives to the family unit that have been incorporated into our government today. For example, in the welfare system, there are incentives to break the family apart. Such incentives include paying young mothers to move out of her parents' household in order to collect more money. Such incentives include having more children because you will receive more benefits for more children. It includes disincentives such as less payment if you live with the father of the children. In 1994, a marriage tax from the Sasser tax bill fifty two percent of all married couples will be paying more taxes this year. This should be removed. These are all examples of anti-family policies.

Smith. . .

pus that we enjoy today. Mr. Laird Smith, Director of Plant, will be missed but never forgotten.

Mr. Smith's peers said of him:

Judy Welhoelter
"Mr. Smith has had a long and honorable association with Montgomery Bell Academy—as a senior here in 1958 he was the recipient of the William Bailey Memorial Award for honor, integrity and loyalty in the senior class. Throughout the 36 years since, he has continually lived up to those ideals, both as an active and supportive alumnus and as a tireless and devoted employee of MBA. He has served MBA well, always treating everyone with equal respect and consideration. He has meant a great deal to MBA, and all of us will miss his ready smile and his great sense of humor. Mr. Smith is in all ways a true MBA gentleman."

Tom Weaver

"At MBA's annual faculty party in December, Mr.

Smith '58 was presented with a gift saluting him upon his retirement. The gift had a small plaque attached expressing the faculty and staff's... appreciation and gratitude for twenty-one years of loyalty and devotion, tireless and faithful service, and untold hours with no task too great or too small.' That high regard for Mr. Laird Smith is held both on and off the school's campus by many, many friends. Whether greeting students, helping alumni feel welcome, or caring for MBA's facilities (most especially the athletic fields), Mr. Smith has cheerfully and earnestly devoted himself to MBA over a proud career. When he declares, which he does often, that 'MBA boys are great,' he knows: he's one!"

He will remain to those of us who know him as our favorite friend. The students and the school thank him for everything he has done to make our surroundings better. He has succeeded!

MICHAEL "Ronnie"
LIFESTYLE PORTRATURE
SALUTES

LIFESTYLE PORTRATURE



Stratton Huggins

Stratton is co-captain of the football team, Vice-President of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a member of the Bell Ringer business staff, and an accomplished artist.

Sports

Coach Bills Leads the Big Red into the '95 Season

by Will Coles

After last year's record-setting season for the Big Red basketball team, Coach Bowers moved on to coach football and Coach Kyle Bill's has stepped in as the new head coach for the '94-95 season.

In 1979 Coach Bills started his coaching career as an assistant at Goodpasture, where he went to three state tournaments. In 1984, he became the head coach at Lincoln County High School where he appeared in three more state tournaments. In 1991, he moved to Franklin high school where last year he took them to the sub-state

game in which they were defeated by M.B.A. in what he referred to as the "most electrifying basketball atmosphere he has ever participated in." (Congratulations basketball rowdies.)

Concerning his decision to come to M.B.A., Coach Bills spoke very highly of the school and its people. "It was exactly what I imagined it to be" Coach Bills said with a smile on his face, "From the faculty to the students, everybody worked so hard and wanted to do

so well." He felt that it was the perfect place for him to coach, and he greatly enjoys his work.

Not only is Coach Bills a basketball coach but also a history teacher and a friend. A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Coach Bills conveys his knowledge of the founding of America as

well as carry on endless discussions of UT trivia. He is greatly admired as a coach and teacher and appears to have found a home at Montgomery Bell Academy.

to the six seniors on the team, Coach Bills commented, "They are a group of players who know what it takes to win."

The team opened the season with strong wins over Stratford and Christian Brothers. The team then began a tough district schedule by defeating Hillsboro, Pearl-Cohn, and Whites Creek. During the course of the first several games, the Big Red achieved several milestones. First, two players dunked in



November first marked the start of practice, and although he had been at M.B.A. since early June, the official beginning of Coach Bills tenure as Head Coach of the Big Red. This season Coach Bills has high expectations for the team as well as the Senior class. In reference

thanks is in order to all the rowdy basketball fans who came out to support the Big Red last year. Coach Bills stated that the excitement of the sub-state game was more



than he had seen at any of his six state tournaments. The Big Red fans deserve more recognition, and I am confident that they will be in full force again this season. Come out and support the Big Red hoopsters as they begin another run at the State Championship under the guidance of Coach Bills.

On a different note, a

Golf Makes Good on its Guarantee

by the members of the Golf team

On the dreary, cold afternoon of November 16, the sun was shining bright on the golf team as they took the football field. Despite the numerous harassments by cross-country runners, the golf team was confident about winning, so confident that a win was guaranteed in assembly by Haynes Gentry.

The golf team proved that the cross-country's 20+ members and so called speed "that the golf team would be no match for" had no bearing on the outcome. The golf team jumped out to a 37-7 lead and never looked back. The golf team was led by the precise passes of senior captain Cooper Jones, who threw five touchdown passes as well as catching one from fellow senior Haynes Gentry who threw three touchdowns, caught two, and had a safety.

In addition the offensive spotlight was on Charlie Malone, who caught uncount-



Cooper Jones lets the ball fly

able passes (three being touchdowns) to add to his three interceptions. Jonathan Ramsey's two touchdown catches were crucial back-breakers of the cross-country squad along with Ben Bodzy's miraculous, late touchdown catch. James Malone sealed the game with the winning catch. It did not matter who the standouts were because everyone on the golf team contributed, and the win can be attributed to an all around team effort. The golf team was able to hold the cross-country to few



John Farringer led the X-men

highlights, mostly from Steven Marler who was unable to single-handedly carry the sputtering cross-country offense.

Although the cross-country members made it interesting towards the end with a brief string of touchdowns, the golf team proved who was manlier in this Weenie Bowl. The score is of little significance compared to the lasting memory that the seniors of the '94 golf team won their final Weenie Bowl.



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